[4th March 1927

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Inadequacy of the supply channel from Sagileru anicut.

238 Q.—Mr. A. Parasurama Rao: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply channel rising from Sagileru anicut, near Kalasapadu village of Badvel taluk in Cuddapah district, is intended to supply water to the irrigation tanks of Mavillapalli, Mahanandipalli, Chinthalapalli and lastly Porumamilla villages;

(b) whether the capacity of the channel has been found to be too inadequate and as a consequence Porumamilla tank, which is the last and the biggest one, does not get sufficient supply of water;

(c) whether it is true that the anicut was designed to carry a larger quantity of water, but subsequently the anicut was narrowed;

(d) whether any representations were made by the people who are affected by it to increase the capacity of the supply channel; if so, what has been done in the matter; and

(e) if no steps have been taken till now whether the Government propose to depute a Special Executive Engineer to inspect and report on the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The capacity of the channel is no doubt insufficient to utilize the floods in the Sagileru to the fullest possible extent but the local officers consider that the tanks under it are at present sufficiently provided for in the matter of their supplies.

(c) The Government are not aware of this.

(d) No representations have been received by Government.

(e) No.

Forests

Ryots' forests in Cuddapah, Kurnool, etc.

239 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table a list of ryots' forests in the four districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool, Anantapur and Bellary as reclassified in the year 1924–25?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the lists printed on pages 28—33 of G.O. No. 703, Development, dated 12th May 1925, which was placed on the Editors' Table.

Education

Alleged proposal to close some secondary schools in Cuddapah district.

240 Q.—Mr. A. Parasurama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are proposing to close the incomplete secondary schools, opened at Rayachoti, Badvel and Kamalapuram in Cuddapah district owing to the smallness of the strength, and the schools not being self-supporting;

4th March 1927]

(b) whether it is a fact that the local authorities have protested against such a course being taken;

(c) what was the decision of the Government in the matter;

(d) what was the recommendation of the District Educational Officer and the Director of Public Instruction in the matter;

(e) how many incomplete secondary schools there are in the districts of Bellary, Kurnool and Anantapur;

(f) whether they are self-supporting or is the net cost of such schools being paid by the Government; and

(g) whether there is any great disparity in the strength of such incomplete secondary schools and that of the schools of the Cuddapah district?

A.—(a), (c) & (d) The Director of Public Instruction has been asked to investigate the need for the continuance of the schools in question. His report has not yet been submitted to Government.

(b) The Government have no information.

(e), (f) & (g) The hon. Member is referred to the subsidiary tables appended to Volume II of the Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for 1925–26.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

REFLECTIONS OF THE "MADRAS MAIL" ON THE MADRAS COUNCIL.

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, yesterday I mentioned to you and I felt it was my duty to bring to your notice what had been brought to my attention, namely, that, in a paper published in Madras, there appeared a paragraph in which there were certain suggestions which may be considered as impugning the impartiality of the President. It is, I think, conceded and I think it would be the unanimous desire of the House that every endeavour should be made to check any attempt to impugn the impartiality of the Chair, which impartiality is the foundation of the rights and dignity of this House and is conducive and is a *sine qua non* to good administration and proper legislation. After notice was taken of that matter, the newspaper in question, namely, the *Madras Mail* has, as is probably known, published a statement in which it repudiates all intention of drawing any attention to any alleged partiality or derogation from the highest standards of presidential rectitude, and in that point of view, with the assertion that this House will always resent such unfounded statements made in journals, my feeling is, and I think in that respect I shall be sharing the feelings of my friends on the floor of the House, that we might leave the matter there." 12 noon.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Sir, I entirely associate myself with the remarks that the hon. the Leader of the House made with regard to the article which appeared in the *Madras Mail* on or about the 28th of January last. It is no doubt, Sir, a delicate and difficult matter to define the conduct of the public press in relation to this House and its distinguished